

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-31 are pending in the application. Claims 2-6, 14, 24-26, and 29-31 stand rejected. Claims 15-23 stand allowed, and claims 8-13, 27, and 28 stand objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's early indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 and 7 were previously cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2, 8, 24-28, and 31 are cancelled without prejudice in this paper. Claims 32-34 have been added.

Claim 32 is essentially claim 8 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 31. Claim 33 is essentially claim 27 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 24, and intervening claims 25 and 26. Claim 34 is essentially claim 28, but without selected limitations incorporated into claim 33 in order to maintain consistency and readability.

Claims 3, 6, 9-12, 14, and 29 have been amended to change their dependency. Claims 4, 5, 13, 15-23, and 30 remain unamended.

Applicant believes the amendments made herein add no new matter. Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based on prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to be attached thereto.

In view of the Examiner's notification of allowable subject matter and the amendments made herein in response thereto, claims 3-6, 9-23, 29, 30, and 32-34 are in condition for immediate allowance. Notification of allowability is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests an Advisory Action be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,
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